

FAITH 
COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

January 29, 2023

And you shall take the Levites for me—I am the LORD—instead of all the firstborn among the people of Israel.

Numbers 3:41

**Call to
Worship**

Worship begins with God who invites us and welcomes us into his presence. Because of Christ, we can approach God with boldness even though we are sinful and weak.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Daniel 4:3 & 7:13-14*

Leader: I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed. How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion endures from generation to generation.

All: Praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just.

**Indicates
when to stand.
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***A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD - Hymn #92**

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe does seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same;
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo
us,
we will not fear, for God has willed his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly powers no thanks to them abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever!

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

***HOW GREAT THOU ART - Hymn #44**

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout, the universe displayed

(Chorus)

*Then sings my soul, my savior God to thee
How great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my savior God to thee
How great thou art, how great thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze

(Chorus)

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

(Chorus)

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God how great thou art

(Chorus)

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *Hebrews 3:7-8; 12-14*

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness...Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.

All: Heavenly Father, we recognize the deceitfulness of our sin. Too often have we been blinded by its charms; too often have our rebellious hearts hardened against you. Take away our unbelieving hearts we pray, and give us gospel hope. Replace our feeble faith with a vibrant one that will hold confidently to the end. Forgive us our sins by the power of your Beloved Son. Grant us humility, and shower him with glory. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Hebrews 10:4, 12, 14*

For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins ... But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God ... For by a single offering he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

Call to Confession

We all sin daily, in thought and word and deed. As we come into God's presence, we acknowledge how we have rebelled against our King and seek his forgiveness.

*NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD OF JESUS - Hymn #307

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

(Chorus)

*O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
no other fount I know; nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

For my cleansing, this I see: nothing but the blood of Jesus.
For my pardon this my plea: nothing but the blood of Jesus.

(Chorus)

Nothing can for sin atone: nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Naught of good that I have done: nothing but the blood of Jesus.

(Chorus)

This is all my hope and peace: nothing but the blood of Jesus.
This is all my righteousness: nothing but the blood of Jesus.

(Chorus)

Now by this I'll overcome, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Now by this I'll reach my home, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

(Chorus)

OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

*Reminder: please sign and pass the Attendance Register down the pew.
Children ages 4-6 excused for Children's Church (downstairs Corner Classroom)*

SPEAK, O LORD

Speak O Lord as we come to You
To receive the food of Your holy word
Take Your truth plant it deep in us
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith
Speak O Lord and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory

Teach us Lord full obedience
Holy reverence true humility
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority
Words of power that can never fail
Let their truth prevail over unbelief

Speak O Lord and renew our minds
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us
Speak O Lord till Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory

Offering

We give back to God a portion of what he has given us to use to declare that he is Lord of all. (This is part of our service as a church family, and visitors should not feel obligated to participate.)

Sermon Series: Numbers: A Pilgrim People
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.
Guarding the Presence of God: Numbers 3-4

Numbers 3:5-13 (ESV)

⁵And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ⁶“Bring the tribe of Levi near, and set them before Aaron the priest, that they may minister to him. ⁷They shall keep guard over him and over the whole congregation before the tent of meeting, as they minister at the tabernacle. ⁸They shall guard all the furnishings of the tent of meeting, and keep guard over the people of Israel as they minister at the tabernacle. ⁹And you shall give the Levites to Aaron and his sons; they are wholly given to him from among the people of Israel. ¹⁰And you shall appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall guard their priesthood. But if any outsider comes near, he shall be put to death.” ¹¹And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ¹²“Behold, I have taken the Levites from among the people of Israel instead of every firstborn who opens the womb among the people of Israel. The Levites shall be mine, ¹³for all the firstborn are mine. On the day that I struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, I consecrated for my own all the firstborn in Israel, both of man and of beast. They shall be mine: I am the LORD.”

I. Why the Levites?

II. Why the order?

Questions for Further Reflection:

1. What is significant about the Lord saying that all first-born males belong to him? What are the implications of this for Israel?
2. One of the great sins of King Jeroboam in 1 Kings 12 was setting up the golden calves and an alternate priesthood. Why did it matter that the Levitical priesthood was the only tribe sanctioned to run the temple worship?
3. Consider: “Those who are leaders in ministry do not appoint themselves to those positions; they are called by God to serve him and his people.” —Ian Duguid. How do we see this carried out in the church today? What is the value of clear church policy?
4. How does the organization of worship and great care for God’s presence with his people point us to the person and work of Jesus?

Children’s Question

Jesus is always with his people.

How is this a comfort to you when you are scared or having a hard time?

How is this a comfort to you when things are going really well?

Sermon

God addresses and speaks to us by the reading and preaching of his Word. Both Christians and non-Christians need to hear the good news of salvation and grow in it.

***ONLY A HOLY GOD**

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven
Who else could make every king bow down
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles
Only a Holy God

What other beauty demands such praises
What other splendor outshines the sun
What other majesty rules with justice
Only a Holy God

(Chorus)

*Come and behold Him, the One and the Only
Cry out sing holy, forever a Holy God, come and worship the Holy God*

What other glory consumes like fire
What other power can raise the dead
What other name remains undefeated
Only a Holy God

(Chorus)

Who else could rescue me from my failing
Who else would offer His only Son
Who else invites me to call Him Father
Only a Holy God, only my Holy God
(Chorus 2x)

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Wine is located in the two outer rings; juice is located in the center ring.
(see FCC observance below)*

**The Lord's
Supper**

The gospel is not only heard, but visibly seen as God invites us to commune with him at his table. In the Lord's Supper we remember and experience Jesus' saving work.

We observe the Lord's Supper each Lord's Day as the climax of our worship service. We invite to the Lord's Table all those who are baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and His body—the Church. Visiting children who have not been examined by their church's leadership, we ask to refrain. By sharing in the Supper, you are acknowledging to our church that you are in covenant with our Triune God through the person and work of Jesus Christ. If you are in doubt about your participation, please refrain. Wine and bread are the elements of the supper as instituted by Jesus Christ. We recommend the use of wine; however we offer both juice and wine in the tray to allow true liberty of conscience.

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

8:15 Matt Riley— 11 Elder Jason Davis

*AARON'S BLESSING

Men lead: May the Lord bless you and keep you
Women echo: (May the Lord bless you and keep you)

May the Lord make His face to shine on you
(May the Lord make His face to shine on you)

And be gracious to you
(And be gracious to you)

May the Lord lift His countenance on you
(May the Lord lift His countenance on you)

May the Lord lift His countenance on you
(May the Lord lift His countenance on you)

May He keep you in perfect peace
(May He keep you in perfect peace)

*BENEDICTION

If you are in need of personal prayer, an elder is available up front after the service.

Benediction

Just as worship begins with God's call, it ends with God sending us into the world with his word of grace . We go forth to live and serve by the power of his grace, not our own strength.

Leaders & Staff

Senior Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D. — Associate Pastor John Sackett

Assistant Pastor (Youth): Ben Melli Music Director/Assistant: Lisa Iddings/Laura Sackett

Refuge Director: Sissy Hashley Staff: Hanni Hanson, Carlynn Stahlberg, Kelly Brown, Jenny Mattern

Elders: Tim Anderson, Jason Davis, Sean Iddings, Tom Jentz, Trent Neumann, Don Olmsted,
Matt Riley, Micah Tinkham

Deacons: Wade Carroll, Terry Falk, Kyle Hanson, Micah Hill, Ryan Petersen,
Mike Stahlberg, Bruce Tulloch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Glacier Church, Pastor Joe Jordan

MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Jamie and Alissa Shattenberg, serving in Madagascar

NEED HELP WITH HOME PROJECTS?: The youth group is looking for ways to minister to our church family throughout the year (snow removal, painting projects, lawn mowing, etc.) Please contact Pastor Ben Melli @ (406) 885-4916 if you or someone you know has a need.

NEW EVENING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: We are adding a new women's Bible study starting Wednesday, Feb. 8. We will meet at the church at 7pm every 2nd & 4th Wednesday to study Nancy Guthrie's *Even Better Than Eden*. Sign up in the foyer. Study materials will be provided at the first class (cost is \$10). Contact Kristin Bay (406-249-2411) with questions.

VESPERS: The next Vespers service will be Sunday, Feb. 12. Come unplug and recharge at this evening service of prayer and song that takes place every 2nd Sunday at 6:30pm.

YOUTH GROUP WINTER CAMP: Will be held at Dickey Lake Bible Camp Feb. 17-19. Cost is \$70/student. Scholarships are available. Contact Ben Melli if you are in need of financial assistance for this event. Check your Friday eNewsletter or the church website for a link to register.

SERVING: January Deacon - Mike Stahlberg

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: Stahlbergs/T&K Anderson

Children's Church: H. Hanson/Pastor John

Nursery: K. Brown & Y. Hernandez

Fellowship Hosts: Janis Orndorff & Kim Hansen

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Carolyn Duncan/Jeanie Brennehan

Next Sunday February 5

Ushers: Sullivans/Bays

Children's Church: H. Hanson/Micah Tinkham

Nursery: Lancasters

Fellowship Hosts: Carolyn Duncan & Alyssa Hobus

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Fosberys/Yvonne Hernandez

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Sunday Worship Services

8:15 & 11 am

Sunday School

10am

Vespers

2nd Sunday @ 6:30 pm

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Tuesdays 7 pm

Wednesdays

Men's Breakfast 6:30 am

Jr High Youth @ 5 pm

Sr. High Youth @ 6:30 pm

Career Group 7 pm